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INFORMATION REPORT

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Argentine Political Situation

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SUBJECT

PLACE

- Mrs. Peron's campaign to discredit Foreign Minister Juan Atilio Bramuglia has gained new impetus since Raul Alejandro Apold became Sub-Secretary of Press and Propaganda. On Mrs. Peron's orders, Apold recently issued instructions to the Peronista press and radio that publicity regarding Bramuglia be kept to a bare minimum. Bramuglia discussed this matter with President Peron, and on 12 April submitted his resignation. Peron, however, refused to accept it and promised to reconcile the differences between Bramuglia and the Sub-Secretariat of Press and Propaganda.
- Peron has been receiving an increasing number of complaints from Peronista party leaders in the interior of the country who claim that the local party centers do not have sufficient autonomy and freedom of action. These complaints particularly assail the fact that provincial Peronista political candidates are named by Peron or Mrs. Peron in a dictatorial fashion, and do not always correspond to the wishes of the local party leaders. As a result of this practice, there have been many resignations from Peronista provincial councils.
- Vice President Hortensio Quijano has warned Peron that unrest is growing in the Peronista party in the interior of the country and that a reorganization is necessary. Quijano attested that intrigue and dissension were rife among party leaders who were placing personal ambitions above party welfare and unity.
- Federal Police agents and certified public accountants from the Ministry of Finance have recently furnished reports to Peron indicating widespread graft in the Ministry of Public Health, The reports directly implicate the Minister of Public Health, Dr. Ramon Carrillo. Although Carrillo denied the charges at a recent cabinet meeting, Peron was not satisfied and may remove him from office after a more complete investigation of affairs in his ministry.
- 5. The recent reorganization of the Immigration Department re-

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- The recent reorganization of the Immigration Department resulted from an investigation of that agency initiated by Colonel Enrique Pedro Gonzalez when he was appointed Director of Immigration. At the suggestion of the Federal Police, Gonzalez began an investigation to ascertain the extent of illegal immigration to Argentina for the purpose of determining if Communists were arriving in Argentina with false papers. Gonzalez apparently learned that some officials in the department were involved in the illegal issuance of permanent residence permits and other documentation to certain immigrants arriving from Italy and Spain.
- 6. Minister of Interior Angel Borlenghi is suspected of having accepted bribes from influential Jews to arrange the entry into Argentina of a large number of Jewish refugees.
- 7. Chief of Federal Police General Arturo Bertollo has requested authorization to enlarge the Seccion Especial (anti-Communist section) of the Police for the purpose of investigation of subversive activities in labor unions in the interior.

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